

REMARKS

Claims 24-47 are pending in the present application and have been rejected by the examiner. Applicant respectfully traverses each ground of rejection and requests reconsideration and further examination of the application under 37 CFR § 1.111. Applicant responds to each ground of rejection and objection as follows.

A. Claims 24-47 are rejected under the Judicially Created Doctrine of Obviousness-Type Double Patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-6, 8 and 11-13 of U.S. Patent No. 6,208,973.

It is respectfully submitted that a Terminal Disclaimer disclaiming the terminal part of the statutory term of any patent granted on the present application that would extend beyond the expiration date of the full statutory term of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,208,973 is being filed herewith. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 24-47 under the Judicially Created Doctrine of Obviousness-type Double Patenting is therefore now moot.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests such action. Should it facilitate allowance of the application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the amount of \$290 for a two-month extension of time (\$225) and the terminal disclaimer (\$65) to the credit card detailed on the attached form PTO-2038. No additional fees are believed to be necessary, however, should any fees be deemed required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but is not to include payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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